

REGION 6 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TOPIC: Denka Performance Elastomer (Denka) and former owner E.I. DuPont de Nemours (DuPont),  
Neoprene Manufacturing Facility, LaPlace, Louisiana

DATE: August 13, 2019

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PURPOSE/ACTION NEEDED: Case Update

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**BACKGROUND:**

Denka owns and operates a neoprene manufacturing facility (the only neoprene production facility in the U.S.) at the Pontchartrain Works site in Laplace, Louisiana (the "Facility"). Denka acquired the Facility from DuPont on November 1, 2015. On December 17, 2015, EPA released the results of the 2011 National Air Toxics Assessment (NATA). These results indicated the highest modeled cancer risks in the country were associated with an area in St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, attributable to chloroprene emissions from Denka's Facility (the cancer risks are 800-in-1 million at the census tract level, 1,400-in-1 million at the block level).

**Ex. 5 AC/DP**

**Ex. 5 AC / Ex. 7(A)**

**CURRENT STATUS:**

**Ex. 5 AC / Ex. 7(A)**

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In May 2016, EPA deployed canisters at six locations and collected air monitoring samples for 24-hours duration every three days, using six-liter stainless steel Summa canisters. The monthly average chloroprene concentrations (24-hour) at the six monitoring locations are below.

- Monitoring results June 2016 – July 16, 2019:


	Average pre-RTO	Average post-RTO
○ Chad Baker St:	8.4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	2.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
○ Fifth Ward Elementary School:	6.9 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	1.9 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
○ Mississippi River Levee:	5.6 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	2.6 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
○ Acorn St and Hwy	3.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	1.3 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
○ Ochsner Hospital:	3.4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	1.2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
○ East Saint John High School:	1.8 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	0.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

- The average concentration for all results at all monitoring locations from May 25, 2016 to July 16, 2019 is 3.88  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .
- The post-RTO average concentration for all results at all monitoring locations from March 18, 2018 to July 16, 2019 is 1.83  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .
- Beginning March 1, 2019, the community monitoring sampling schedule changed from a once every 3<sup>rd</sup> day sampling frequency to a once every 6<sup>th</sup> day sampling frequency. EPA is funded to continue community monitoring through December 2019.

# Ex. 5 AC / Ex. 7(A)

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 **W**orkforce Diversity; **E**nvironmental Stewardship **C**haracter, **A**ccountability, **R**espect, **E**xcellence